



USAID-COMPETE PARTNER FUNDING SUPPORT TO EAGC

MONTHLY REPORT-AUGUST 2012

Introduction

This report from Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) is for the month of **August 2012** covering the achievements under USAID-COMPETE funding support to EAGC. The Grant is aimed at strengthening institutional coordination and regional structured grain trading system through integrated regional market information systems, policy and reduced barriers to trade. The objectives of the entire Grant are as follows:

1. To facilitate institutional strengthening to enable EAGC to deliver services to its stakeholders across the region with a particular emphasis on strengthening the capacity of satellite offices in Uganda and Tanzania.
2. To formalize regional agricultural markets and structured trade systems in the Eastern and Southern Africa region through training of trainers in harmonized grains standards, rules of trade (tariffs, simplified certificate of origin (SCO), Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS), WRS/Commodities Exchanges and dispute resolution.
3. To expand RATIN into a truly regional market information platform that integrates national MIS providers and provides timely and accurate data and analysis to all value chain participants and is the region's preferred source of market information.
4. To hold a successful Grain Trade Summit in Uganda in October 2011 to discuss the systems required to formalize, strengthen and integrate the regional staple foods value chain, increase stakeholder participation in structured trading systems and promote regional trade and food security.
5. To organize Agribusiness Fairs in Kenya and Tanzania to bring small-scale farmers and FBOs together with leading regional traders and processors to build linkages across the value chain.
6. To engage directly with national governments in the EAC to ensure full adoption and institutionalization of the EAC's harmonized grains standards.

1. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

1.1 Regional and Country Operations

Through the USAID COMPETE Grant, the three country offices in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania were fully operational. EAGC continued to deliver services to its members and stakeholders across the region. In the month of August, EAGC represented its members in various stakeholders' forums including:

a) Uganda

- i). Rice Value Chain Analysis Workshop-27th August 2012
- ii). Beans and Coffee Value Chain Analysis Workshop-29th -30th August 2012

b) Tanzania

- iii). Tanzania Markets Policy Action Node(PAN)'s Public-Private Dialogue on Trade Barriers-31st August 2012
- iv). Nane nane Exhibitions-1st to 8th August 2012

c) Kenya

- v). Kenya Agricultural Transformation Forum-22nd August 2012

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2.1. Strengthening Structured Trading Systems:

i). Grain Fumigation Training

EAGC conducted the Fumigation Seminar on 6th & 7th August in Nairobi and in Eldoret on 14th & 15th August 2012 where a total of 23 grain practitioners were trained. The Trainer was Mr. Jerry Heath, an Expert on Fumigation from the USA whose time was secured under EAGC's collaboration with CNFA's Farmer to Farmer Program. Mr. Ian Goggin represented USAID COMPETE during the training. The training was conceptualized way back in 2011 when EAGC together with USAID-CNFA, brought in Mr. George Kornstad- a Grain

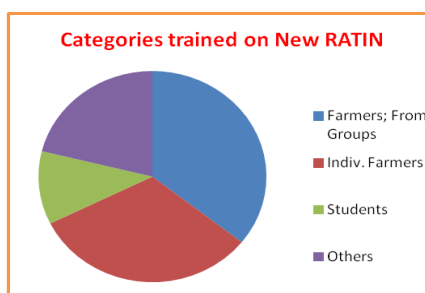
Handling Specialist from USA who was engaged with EAGC members who operate grain warehouses to assess their operations and identify gaps for capacity building. Mr. Kornstad noted the fumigation malpractices and recommended a course on fumigation.

2.2. Market Information Systems

i) Training on New RATIN during the EAGC ABF in Nakuru

EAGC trained farmers on its new RATIN system during the ABF in Nakuru, Kenya on August 9-10, 2012. The farmers and other participants were taken through step by step on how they access market information available on RATIN. The total number of farmers trained on new RATIN during the ABF was 507. These consisted of Farmer groups, individual farmers, Students among others;

Participants	No.
Farmers; From Groups	181
Indiv. Farmers	162
Students	57
Others	107
Total	507



ii) Other Trainings on Increasing Agricultural Input and Output Trade through Innovative MIS in Africa

EAGC in collaboration with IFDC conducted an international training workshop on “Increasing Agricultural Input and Output Trade through Innovative MIS in Africa”. The training workshop took place between August 27 and 31, 2012. The participants were 34 in number drawn from over 9 countries. During the workshop, EAGC was able to demonstrate, to the participants, how useful the Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network (RATIN) is valuable in creating opportunities for small scale farmers and traders in the regional grain sector. The system captured the attention of most participants and it stood out as a one of the unique models in the regional front.

iii) Budget Synopsis in Tanzania and Uganda

EAGC held meetings on budget synopsis for Uganda and Tanzania members where key issues affecting the agricultural and business sector in the 2012/13 budget were discussed. The meetings took place in Kampala and Dares Salaam on 6th and 17th August 2012 respectively. The meetings attracted key stakeholders from EAGC membership and other stakeholders from both private and public sectors.

2.3. Agribusiness Fairs

i) Report on Agribusiness Expo Kenya

The EAGC Agri-business Expo took place on the 9th and 10th 2012 at the Rift Valley Institute of Science and Technology (RVIST) with joined efforts between the three partners EAGC, CGA and RVIST. The theme for this year's Expo was "Integrating Innovations and Technology for Sustainable Agribusiness".

This event was inaugurated on day one by Hon. John Mututho-the Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Agriculture. On the same day, he launched the Amiran One-Acre Irrigation Kit. The irrigation kit had been set-up at RVIST for demonstration purposes. On day 2, the expo was closed by Mr. Humphrey Mwangi-Director Agribusiness, Ministry of Agriculture who represented the Minister for Agriculture, Hon. Sally Koskei.

The Expo addressed among other topics; importance of agricultural innovation and technology as key drivers of agribusiness, Impact of transformative and dynamic innovations and use of technology on growth of the agribusiness, positive effect of innovations and technology on improved productivity, diversification of new products, employment creation and expansion of new markets, enhanced broad entrepreneurial activities among the youth for expanded growth and opportunities.

The following are the key accomplishments during the Kenya Agribusiness Expo 2012.

- *Participation by Exhibitors and Sponsors*

The Agribusiness Expo received support in form of sponsorship Amiran (K) Ltd, Brazafric Enterprises Ltd, USAID KMDP II, KCB Bank, Kenya Seed Company and Virtual City.

A wider range of stakeholders in the agricultural sector including millers, farm machinery, service providers such as banks, warehouse operators and input suppliers as well as government agencies, research institutions and international organizations operating in the Eastern Africa region participated in the Expo. A total of 62 exhibitors and 4 organizers and partners displayed their products and services, thereby adding to the success of the Expo. They belonged to the following categories: 17 Gold, 12 Silver and 22 Bronze and 11 special categories. Please find appendix 1 attached to this report to see the list of exhibitors.

- *Participation by Farmers*

Approximately 5000 farmers visited the Expo in Nakuru. They benefited from linking with the exhibitors.

- *Exhibitors Networking*

On the Thursday 8th August 2012 evening, a networking dinner was held at Nakuru Golf Club where 150 guests enjoyed food, entertainment and networking.

- *Launch of Amiran One-Acre Irrigation Kit*

Amiran (K) Ltd, the official sponsor used the Expo to launch its new ‘One Acre Irrigation Kit’ which is expected to revolutionize small holder crop production in Kenya. This was the first time the technology was introduced to the public.

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